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SALT
CIA 4.02 SATELLITE**New spy craft
to monitor SALT
to be ready by 1983**

The Pentagon and the Central Intelligence Agency are rushing construction of a new signal intelligence satellite they plan to launch into geosynchronous orbit over the Soviet Union by 1983. It is being designed to intercept all telemetry data from Soviet missile test flights and thus will become a vital U. S. method verifying Soviet compliance with the terms of the Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty 2. In that mission, according to a Pentagon source, it "will do away with our need for all ground intercept stations" of the sort that the U. S. lost in Iran and still operates - with much less capability--in Turkey. The new satellite will team with photo-reconnaissance satellites, notably the KH-11 (which one official describes as "stretching the state of the art to its outer limits - a technological masterpiece"), long since positioned over the Soviet Union. The high promise of the so-called Sigint satellite is what prompted Defense Secretary Harold Brown's recent assurance that the U. S. will be able to check up "completely" on Soviet missile tests by 1983.